Flood control measures in Bihar

4292. SHR1 TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that flood prone rivers are affecting the people every year in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has prepared any flood control and management scheme for these flood prone rivers; and

(c) whether there is any specific plan chalked out to control the flood from the rivers of Kosi, Kamla Balan and Mahananda in Bihar particularly in Katihar District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Flood Management including erosion control falls within the purview of State Governments. The Flood Control Schemes are planned, investigated and implemented by the States as per their priorities with their own funds. However, in order to provide assistance to State Governments, a scheme namely 'Flood Management Programme' (FMP) with estimated cost of Rs. 8,000 crore has been approved in principle, under State Sector for implementation during Eleventh plan. The Government of Bihar has proposed flood management schemes to control floods from the rivers Bagmati; Kamla-Balan and Mahananda covering various districts including Katihar for Central assistance under the FMP during Eleventh Plan period. The schemes for Bagmati and Kamla-Balan have been included under the FMP in first meeting of the Empowered Committee held on 14th March, 2008.

Irrigation facilities for **agricultural land**

†4293. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land in hectares under cultivation in the country at present;

(b) th6 total hectares of land out of the said agricultural land where irrigation facility is available;

(c) the details of the means of irrigation available in the total irrigated areas; and

(d) the future plans of Government to irrigate the unirrigated areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) As per the Land Use Statistics of Ministry of Agriculture, the net sown area during 2005-06 was 141.9 million hectare out of which irrigated area was 60.2 million hectare.

As per the reports received from various State Governments, facilities for irrigation have been created with irrigation potential of 102.7 million hectare up to March 2007, which also account for irrigation more than once in a year on the same land. The irrigation potential created include 42.3 million hectare through major and medium irrigation projects 14 J million hectare through minor irrigation surface water schemes and 46.1 million hectare through minor irrigation groundwater schemes. During the Eleventh Plan (2007—12), creation of irrigation potential of 16 million hectares has been envisaged.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.